NILS

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National Integrated Land System
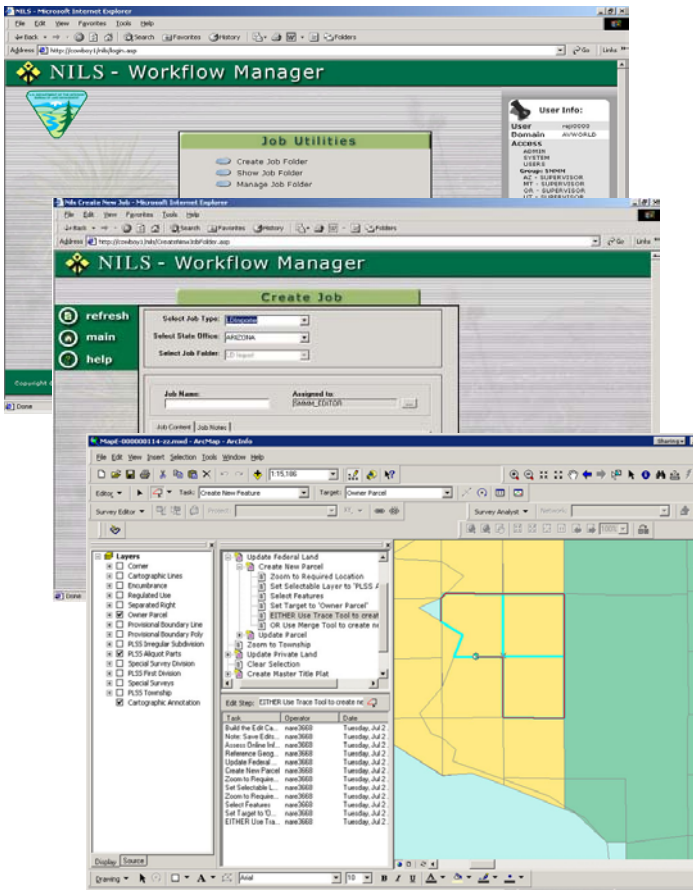
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National Integrated Land System

The National Integrated Land System (NILS) is a joint project between the Bureau of Land Management (BLM); USDA Forest Service (USFS); and state, county, and private organizations. NILS will provide a business solution to land managers who face an increasingly complex environment of complicated transactions, legal challenges, and deteriorating and difficult-to-access records.

As part of the NILS solution, the worlds of surveying and GIS technology will be unified through a nationwide data model, a measurement management engine to analyze survey data, and parcel creation and maintenance tools. The integration of surveying and GIS provides land managers with a complete field–to-fabric technology solution. The Survey Management and Measurement Management applications provide the foundation for a highly controlled parcel fabric.

Workflow Manager

NILS provides the framework and a set of customizable tools to manage the workflows and tasks associated with land management business processes. Users are able to carry a job through its lifecycle with the aid of two customized applications, the Workflow Manager and the Task Assistant.

Workflow Manager

The NILS Workflow Manager allows users to create an instance of a job process and configure the job by assigning attributes such as responsibility for the job's tasks and the job's area of interest. Additionally, users can check the status of jobs, and locate jobs by various search criteria such as location, responsible parties, and job type. The Workflow Manager provides the user with an ordered series of tasks to guide them through the actions required to complete a job. The user has the ability to check-off tasks as they are completed. This tracks their progress and allows others to monitor a Job's status.

Task Assistant

When a job task within the Workflow Manager requires actions to be carried out within the NILS GIS, users are able to step directly into the GIS application from the Workflow Manager. Within ArcGIS, the Task Assistant provides an ordered series of tasks and advice to guide the user through their interactions with the GIS application. Wizards, customized functionality, and tools associated with tasks in the Task Assistant allow even novice users to make use of complex GIS functionality to complete a job task.

Together, the Workflow Manager and Task Assistant greatly simplify the completion of day-to-day jobs. They provide a routine, easy to learn, standard way of doing business throughout the organization and provide rich functionality for tracking a job from inception to completion. The workflow management tools were released September 2002.